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23 February 2005

The United States Securities and Exchange Commission **Exemption File 82-5204** 

Division of Corporate Finance Room 3094 (3-6) 450 5<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest Washington DC 20549 USA

SIPPL

Dear Sirs,

Sew GKN PLC

**GKN** expands its presence in China

For your information I enclose a copy of the above announcement which was released today.

Yours faithfully,

Spelather

**David Pavey** 

Assistant Company Secretary

Enc

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## For immediate release

Date

23 February 2005

## GKN expands its presence in China

GKN today announces that it has entered into an agreement to form a new company in China with Henan Zhongyuan Engine Fittings Stock Company Limited (ZYNP).

The new company, GKN Zhongyuan Cylinder Liner Company, will be established on a greenfield site in Mengzhou City in Henan Province and GKN and ZYNP will own 59% and 41% respectively.

The new company will focus on the production and sale of truck engine cylinder liners for the domestic Chinese market and for some selected export applications. Through its Sheepbridge Stokes business GKN is already a world leader in cylinder liners for automotive, industrial and marine applications.

GKN has been present in China for 16 years and has three existing joint venture companies active in the Chinese light vehicle driveline market.

The new company will become operational in early 2006 and will ultimately employ approximately 700 people. The partners estimate that some £16.4 million will be invested over time.

## For further information:

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